

REMARKS

[0004] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. The status of the claims is as follows:

- Claims 1-12, 14-22, and 24-36 are currently pending
- Claims 13 and 23 are canceled herein without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein
- Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31 are amended herein

[0005] Support for the amendments to Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31 is found in at least paragraphs [0025] – [0027] of the specification.

Cited Documents

[0006] The following documents have been applied to reject one or more claims of the Application:

- Rathbone: Rathbone, "Windows XP for Dummies", Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2001, pp 1-17.
- Straub: Straub et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,905,492
- Hilbert: Hilbert et al, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0088570

Claims 1-36 Are Non-Obvious Over Rathbone, Straub and Hilbert

[0007] Claims 1-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Rathbone in view of Straub, in further view of Hilbert. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and further requests that the rejection be

reconsidered and withdrawn. However, in spite of Applicant's traversal, without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection, and for the sole purpose of expediting allowance of the present application, Applicant hereby amends independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31 in the manner set forth above. Further, Applicant respectfully notes that Claims 13 and 23 have been canceled, thus obviating the rejection with respect to those claims.

[0008] Initially, the Action states that the Straub reference "constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)" and that the "rejection might also be overcome by showing that the reference is disqualified under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) as prior art in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) (Office Action, pages 2-3). Applicant's representative contacted Examiner Roswell regarding the accuracy of the above statement. Following a discussion between Applicant's representative and Examiner Roswell, Examiner Roswell confirmed that the Straub reference also constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Accordingly, Applicant's representative understood Examiner Roswell to state that Straub could not be disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c).

Independent Claim 1

[0009] For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the above combination of references fail to teach or suggest at least the following features recited in independent Claim 1:

a desktop page configured to display in response to a selectable logon control being selected, the desktop page further configured to display user selectable controls in one or more regions of the desktop page and persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control; and

a transition from the logon page to the desktop page, the transition configured to display after the selectable logon control has been selected but prior to display of the desktop page, the transition further configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition and to display elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls, thereby enhancing a computing session by providing seamless continuity when a user logs onto the computing system.

However, although the Action acknowledges that Rathbone "fails to explicitly teach the desktop page being further configured to persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control," the Action further asserts that Straub teaches the above recitation (Office Action, page 3). With respect to Straub, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

[0010] More particularly, it is respectfully submitted that Straub does not teach or suggest "and persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control," as presently recited in Claim 1. The Action asserts that Straub teaches "the ability to customize [i.e. "further configure"] a desktop background to display any graphic image selected by a user, which would include said user-identifiable indicator, at col. 2, lines 20-29" (Office Action, page 3). Rather, Applicant submits that Straub teaches that "Windows 95 graphical user interface provides many opportunities to enhance or customize its appearance and operation according to a user's preferences" (Col. 2, lines 20-22). For example, Straub teaches that "it is possible to add additional icons onto the desktop to represent other application programs, documents, files, and resources" (Col. 2, lines 22-25). That is, Straub teaches that a user may customize the appearance of a desktop by adding additional icons that represent various applications, documents, files, etc. However, Applicant has reviewed the Straub reference in its entirety and respectfully submits that Straub neither

teaches nor suggests "persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control," as presently recited.

[0011] Moreover, both Rathbone and Hilbert do not remedy the deficiencies in Straub noted above with respect to the above recitation of independent Claim 1, nor does the rejection make any arguments to that effect. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Straub, Rathbone, and Hilbert, both singularly and in combination with one another, do not teach or suggest the foregoing recitation.

[0012] Further, the Action acknowledges that Rathbone and Straub do not explicitly teach "a transition from the logon page to the desktop page..." (Office Action, page 4). However, the Action further asserts that Hilbert teaches the above recitation. With respect to Hilbert, Applicant respectfully disagrees. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that the above combination of references is silent with respect to "the transition further configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition and to display elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls," as presently recited in Claim 1 (emphasis added).

[0013] For instance, Applicant submits that Hilbert teaches an interface display depicting the loading of a personal portal (Figures 3 and 4). Further, when the personal portal has been loaded, Hilbert teaches a personalized interface display having various icons (Figure 5). However, Applicant has reviewed the Hilbert reference in its entirety and respectfully submits that Hilbert is silent with respect to "display elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls," as presently recited. In fact, it is submitted that Hilbert fails to even suggest "non-selected selectable logon controls," let alone display

the elimination thereof. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 is patentable over Rathbone, Straub, and Hilbert, both singularly and in combination with one another.

Independent Claims 7, 12, 21, and 31

[0014] Independent Claims 7, 12, 21, and 31 recite features similar to those discussed above with regard to independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 7, 12, 21, and 31 are also patentable over Rathbone, Straub, and Hilbert, both singularly and in combination with one another, for at least the reasons set forth above.

Dependent Claims 2-6, 8-11, 14-20, 22, 24-30, and 32-36

[0015] As stated above, independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31 are patentable over Rathbone in view of Straub, in further view of Hilbert. Accordingly, dependent Claims 2-6, 8-11, 14-20, 22, 24-30, and 32-36 are also patentable over the above combination of references by virtue of their dependency on independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31, as well as for the additional features that Claims 2-6, 8-11, 14-20, 22, 24-30, and 32-36 recite.

[0016] Further, without any teaching or suggestion as to how or even why the descriptions in Rathbone may be modified, it is further submitted that one of ordinary skill would not have been motivated to modify the implementations described by Rathbone with Straub or Hilbert, nor would it have been obvious to try. Further, as the above combination of references fail to teach or suggest several features recited in

independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have sought to modify any of the above references with another of the remaining cited references. Likewise, as the references noted above lack several features recited in independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31, it would not have been obvious to try, at the time of the invention, to make the inventions as presently claimed.

[0017] Thus, Rathbone, Straub, and Hilbert, whether taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake of argument that they can be combined), fail to disclose or suggest the recitations of independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31 are patentable over the proposed combination of references. Furthermore, dependent Claims 2-6, 8-11, 14-20, 22, 24-30, and 32-36 are also patentable over the above combination of references by virtue of their dependency on independent Claims 1, 7, 12, 21, and 31, as well as for the additional features that each claim recites. Applicant also respectfully requests individual consideration of each dependent claim.

[0018] Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-12, 14-22, and 24-36 are not obvious over Rathbone in view of Straub, in further view of Hilbert, and therefore, the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

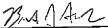
CONCLUSION

[0019] For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-12, 14-22, and 24-36 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and an early notice of allowance.

[0020] The arguments and amendments presented herein were necessitated by the most recent Office Action, and could not have been presented previously because the Non-Final Office Action rejected claims based on a new reference not previously of record. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, **Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee & Hayes, PLLC
Representative for Applicant


Brett J. Schlameus (brett@leehayes.com; 206-876-6022)
Registration No. 60827

Dated: 6/17/09

Reviewer/Supervisor: Robert C. Peck (robp@leehayes.com; 206-876-6019)
Registration No. 56826